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FREE

Thursday, February 20, 2025

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Masonic Lodge makes donation for child safety

On Tuesday, Feb. 11, Paw Paw-Lawton Masonic Lodge No. 25 presented a check for $1,060 to Child Safety of America, Inc. Funds provided by the organization were made possible from the Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundations Lodge Charity Account. Van Buren County Sheriff Daniel Abbott attended the meeting and received the check.

Photo courtesy/Van Buren County Sheriff's Office

On Tuesday, Feb. 11, Paw Paw-Lawton Masonic Lodge No. 25 presented a check for $1,060 to Child Safety of America, Inc. The donation was made during the monthly meeting of the lodge. Funds provided by the organization were made possible from the Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundations Lodge Charity Account.

Van Buren County Sheriff Daniel Abbott attended the meeting and received the check. Sheriff Abbott also spoke about the program.

"I cannot thank the Paw Paw- Lawton Masonic Lodge No. 25 enough for contributing to our program. This program has been huge in our community being able to reach so many of our children. Without people like the Masons contributing, this would not be possible. The children in our community are our future, so anytime we can make a positive influence in their lives, it's huge. A program like this does just that," said Sheriff Abbott.

PPPS welcomes new Later Elementary principal

Paw Paw Public Schools recently welcomed Carolyn Murray as its new Paw Paw Later Elementary principal. She succeeds former Paw Paw LES Principal Jeremy Davison, who was recently named as the district's new superintendent.

Before joining PPPS, Murray served as principal at St. Mary Catholic School, Paw Paw. Prior to that, she taught kindergarten and second grade in St. Joseph, MI.

Murray graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education and Psychology from Augustana College. She is nearing completion of her Master of Arts degree in Educational Leadership from Western Michigan University.

"There was overwhelming support for Ms. Murray as the top candidate for the position," said Superintendent Jeremy Davison. "I am excited to have Carolyn join our dynamic leadership team, and I look forward to the positive impact she will have on the students, staff and families at Paw Paw Later Elementary. I am also grateful to our Later Elementary Interim Principal Karen Bitzer, a retired school administrator, who has graciously agreed to stay on temporarily in a leadership mentoring capacity."

In addition to building collaborative staff relationships, Murray looks forward to getting better acquainted with the students, staff and families at the later elementary and in the district.

Principal Carolyn Murray can be reached by phone at (269) 415-5400, or by email at: carolyn.murray@ppps.org.

Ceremony held for Lawton Hall of Fame inductees

On Feb. 14, Lawton Community Schools held a ceremony for the 2024-25 Lawton Blue Devil Hall of Fame inductees. Named to this year's Hall of Fame induction class are Janine and Troy Johnson (shown second from left and center) - Outstanding dedication in coaching, volunteerism, and supporting Lawton Community Schools' students. The late Dixie Boothby (represented by her daughter, Tonda Boothby, second from right) - Lawton teacher, dedicated to students, founder of the Lawton High School chapter of the National Honor Society, and Nathan and Daniel Orozco (far left and far right) – Lawton High School graduates who showed excellence in athletics with a variety of All-State honors, school records, and multiple state champions.

Photo courtesy/Gary Sampsell

Man faces charges after vehicle travels off roadway with two small children inside

By Paul Garrod
Staff Writer
news4garrod@gmail.com

KEELER TWP. – A Pullman area man faces charges of OWI and child endangerment after his vehicle, with two small children inside, traveled off the roadway in Keeler Township. He alleg-edly passed out, with the children still inside and dangerous wind chill that night, according to a press release from the Van Buren County Sheriff's Office.

Van Buren County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched early Friday morning, Feb. 14, to the 74000 block of County Road 687 in Keeler Township for reports of a man screaming. Van Buren County Sheriff Daniel Abbott said deputies arrived at the scene at 1:50 a.m., and found a vehicle had traveled off the roadway. Deputies noticed the male driver slumped over the steering wheel. Several attempts to awaken the driver were made before he finally acknowledged the deputies.

The driver was identified as a 27-year-old Pullman area man. While speaking with the driver, deputies saw two small children in the vehicle's rear seat. The children, aged three and five, were sleeping at the time of deputies' arrival. Deputies noted the extreme cold while on sce-ne, with wind chill hovering around zero degrees.

Deputies inquired into a broken window on the vehicle to which the suspect driver said he broke it because he lost his keys. Deputies noticed signs of intoxication from the driver, who was asked to exit the vehicle for the investigation.

Authorities learned that the suspect was traveling from Lawrence to Pullman. Deputies noted that the suspect was traveling in the wrong direction.

It was determined that the driver was operating while intoxicated and he was placed into custody. The suspect was transported to the Van Buren County Jail, facing charges of OWI and child endangerment.

The children were brought back to the Van Buren County Sheriff's Office, where they were cared for until family arrived and picked them up.

A report will be referred to CPS and has been submitted to the Van Buren County Prosec-tor's Office for review. This investigation remains open.

Three inducted in to Paw Paw Hall of Fame

This year's inductees to the Paw Paw Hall of Fame include from left, Michael Roy, Erik Laskovy (accepted on behalf of his mother, Diane Peter and Roy's daughter, Kellin Laskovy), and Perry Richardson. The three were inducted in ceremonies held Feb. 14, at the Paw Paw High School gymnasium.

Courier-Leader photo/Paul Garrod

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Wood stove overheats, firefighters save house

Photo courtesy South Haven Area Emergency Services

This cold weather is especially challenging for home heating systems, especially for residents with wood-burning stoves.

South Haven Area Emergency Services (SHAES) this morning (Friday, 9:20 a.m.) responded to a Casco Township residence where a wood-burner in the kitchen overheated and filled the structure with smoke. Smoke alarms awakened the occupants. There was no fire damage to the structure.

All occupants of the residence on 111th Avenue safely evacuated, including a family pet. Lt. Tim Quinn is pictured making the special "rescue".

Firefighters remained on scene for an hour removing smoke from the home.

Ganges Township fire department provided mutual aid.

Blanket event brings volunteers together for a good cause

By James Windell

Partnering with the non-profit Fleece and Thank You, Lake Michigan Linen Service sponsored a blanket making event that produced nearly 100 colorful blankets for pediatric patients.

Held on Friday, January 31, 2025, the event took place at the South Haven Area Senior Center.

According to Ashley Greer, President of Lake Michigan Linen Services, located in South Haven, it was a successful charity event that brought out 75 people to contribute to the cause of Fleece and Thank You. "I had never heard of Fleece and Thank You before, but they reached out to me in September last year and they said they were looking for a laundry as a partner," Greer says. "As soon as they explained what they did, we said absolutely because it was something that fit well with what we were doing."

Fleece and Thank You, a company with headquarters in Farmington Hills, Michigan, started business about seven years ago to make blankets to give to pediatric hospitals around the state. In 2024, Fleece and Thank You donated more than 20,000 blankets to comfort hospitalized children.

Nicholas Kristock, Founder and Executive Director of Fleece and Thank You, says on the company's website that "For many of our patients and their families, this is a room they do not want to be in and a diagnosis they do not understand. It's not their bed, not their sheets, not their pillow, and not their 'normal.' We can give these kids and their families one of the first reasons to smile during an uncertain time, one of the first reasons to have hope when they see something bright and colorful waiting for them on the bed."

Greer said that after the volunteers made the blankets her company laundered and packaged all of the blankets so they would be ready to distribute to pediatric patients. "Our staff and I love what they do and wanted to see what we could do further to help," Greer said. "Since we know South Haven has a great community of volunteers, especially those that are a part of the senior services center, we wanted to see if we could start making blankets as well."

Greer said that they received a $3,000 donation from the South Haven Vacation Rental Community which provided enough fleece for 100 blankets.

She added that she was thrilled by the number of volunteers who participated. "We had such a great turnout, with lots of people from the community coming together who would not normally get together," she said. "But they came together to make blankets and we would love to make this an annual event."

Parent cafes offer a place to talk about parenting

James Windell

Ever wish you had a friend you could have coffee with while you talk about your kids? Ever feel the need to just talk about your parenting struggles?

Parent Cafes at the Bronson Wellness Center may be just what you're looking for.

Once a month on Wednesday morning from 10:00 am to 11:00 am February through May, you can join other parents at the Bronson Wellness Center in South Haven to share coffee, pastry and conversation about being a dad or a mom.

Run by Isabel Hinton, Health Educator at the Bronson Wellness Center, and Ashley Walker, Social Worker with Van Buren Community Mental Health, Parent Cafes is meant to be a comfortable place for parents.

"We facilitate peer-to-peer conversations," says Isabel Hinton. "It a place for all parents and caregivers in the community. It's a place where you will be able to share what's going on in your life. We see it as a cool program that helps you focus on what's going well in the family and what may not be going so well."

"Parent Cafes is a unique group," explains Ashley Walker. "We don't lecture you or do training, but it is a place where you can get things off your chest. Especially things you've been struggling with as a parent."

In a recent interview, Walker and Hinton said that they lead conversations with parents by asking questions related to protective factors. "We think talking about protective factors is important because if certain protective factors are in place for parents, it's easier to get through tough times."

Each of the scheduled Parent Cafes will focus on one protective factor, such as social connections, coping skills, knowledge of parenting, and child development. "Parents will have a chance to talk about the problems they might be experiencing around that topic or get new ideas from other parents about how they handled it," Hinton said. "Sometimes it's just helpful for parents to admit they are struggling with some aspect of being a mom or a dad and hearing that other parents are struggling with the same thing."

Scheduled Parent Cafes are on the following Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 11:00 am: February 19; March 12; April 23; and May 14. Any parent or caregiver, no matter the ages of their children, are welcome. All sessions are free and light refreshment and coffee will be served. Childcare will be available on April 23 and May 14.

"Our hope is that parents leave the Parent Cafes feeling empowered and like they have more tools in their parenting toolbox," said Walker. "And we want them to feel like they can handle things that come up with their children in a better way."

Hinton added: "Parent Cafes is a great space for people to connect and this won't be intimidating. We want everyone to feel like they have an additional support system and a place where they feel comfortable."

All Parent Cafes are held at the Bronson Wellness Center, 950 S. Bailey, South Haven. Call 269-639-2754 to register ahead of time. However, Walker and Hinton emphasize that although registration is helpful with their planning, it is not required for participation. You can also register online at Hintoni@bronsonhg.org

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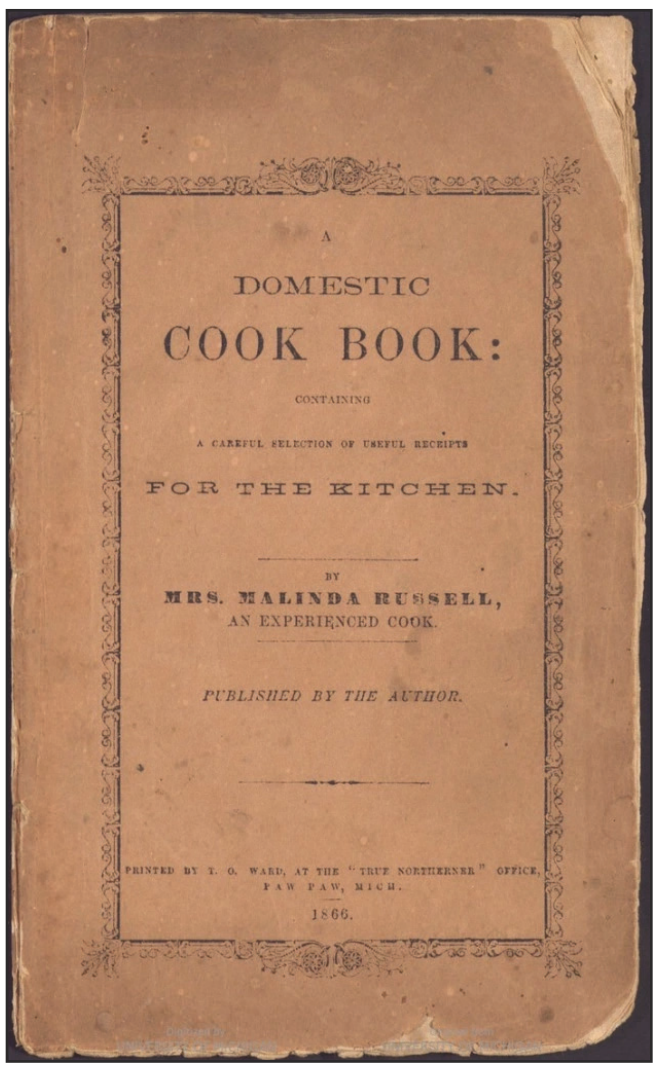
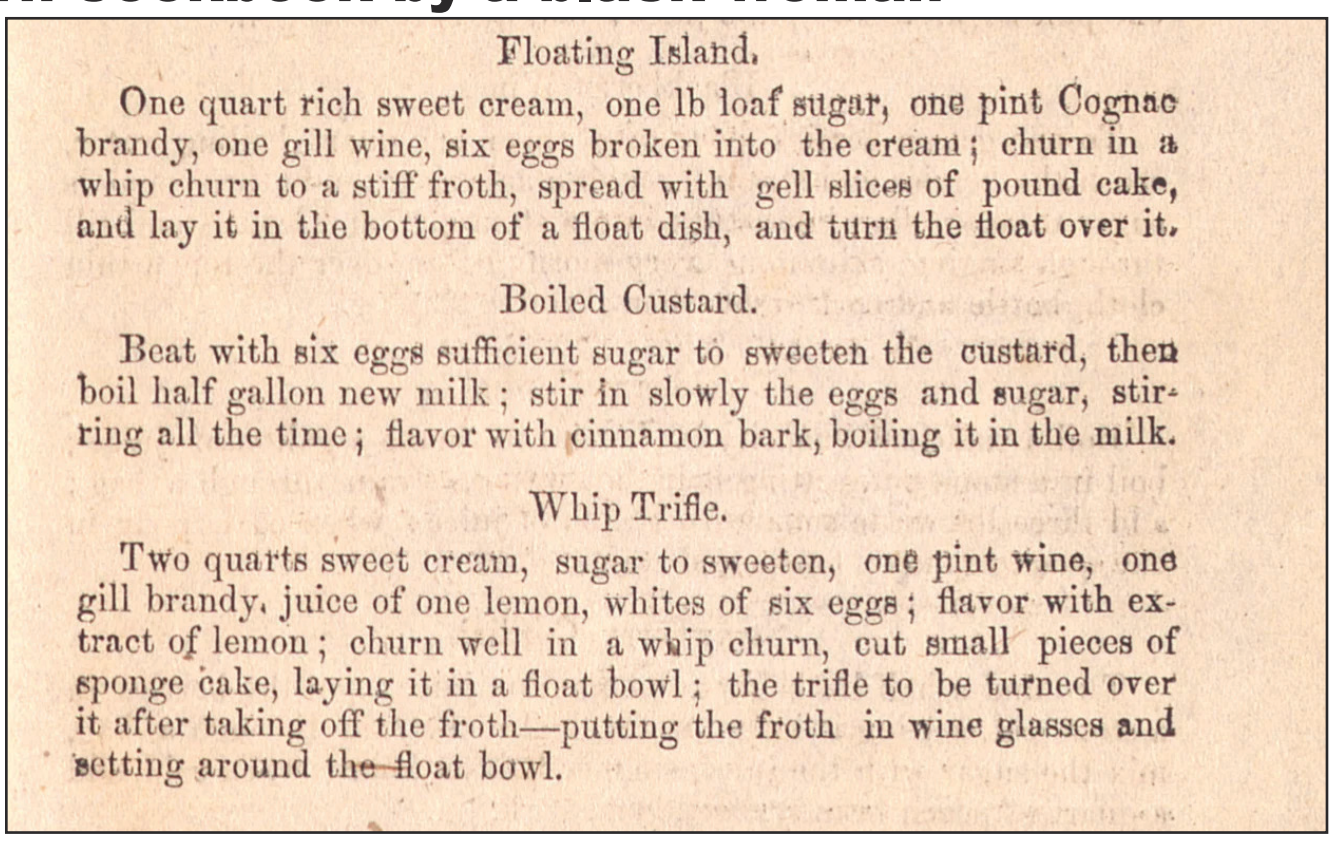
2ND FRONT PAGE

African American Woman from Paw Paw credited with publishing first known cookbook by a black woman





Floating Island.

One quart rich sweet cream, one lb loaf sugar, one pint Cognac brandy, one gill wine, six eggs broken into the cream; churn in a whip churn to a stiff froth, spread with gell slices of pound cake, and lay it in the bottom of a float dish, and turn the float over it.

Boiled Custard.

Beat with six eggs sufficient sugar to sweeten the custard, then boil half gallon new milk; stir in slowly the eggs and sugar, stirring all the time; flavor with cinnamon bark, boiling it in the milk.

Whip Trifle.

Two quarts sweet cream, sugar to sweeten, one pint wine, one gill brandy, juice of one lemon, whites of six eggs; flavor with extract of lemon; churn well in a whip churn, cut small pieces of sponge cake, laying it in a float bowl; the trifle to be turned over it after taking off the froth—putting the froth in wine glasses and setting around the float bowl.

By Paul Garrod
Staff Writer
news4garrod@gmail.com

PAW PAW - With February designated as Black History Month; while doing research on another story, The Courier-Leader found an interesting news item.

Paw Paw was the home of African American cookbook author Malinda Russell, who published the first known cookbook by a black woman in the United States. She lived in Paw Paw after she fled her Tennessee home, which was raided by traveling gangs of whites in 1864. Her book, A Domestic Cook Book: Containing a Careful Selection of Useful Receipts for the Kitchen, was printed as a means to provide income for her and her son and to earn money to return to Greeneville, Tenn. She published her book in 1866, giving a brief history of her life and stating in the preface to it that she hoped to earn passage to return home from its proceeds.

The slim book - contains 39 pages and 260 recipes and household tips - that draw on Russell's 20 years of experience cooking in Southern kitchens, her boarding house, and her pastry shop, and showcase her skills as a pastry chef.

The book was published by T.O. Ward, at the "True Northerner" Office, a forerunner of The Courier-Leader.

Shortly after it was published, a portion of downtown Paw Paw was destroyed by fire. It was reported that the entire print run was burned up in that fire. Only one copy is known to survive. It is currently owned by the library of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

And for Russell, it was reported that after the fire, no further trace of her is known.

Commissioners approve grant submission for pilot project

By Paul Garrod
Staff Writer
news4garrod@gmail.com

PAW PAW - Van Buren County Commissioners on Tuesday, Feb. 11, approved the submission of the juvenile court application for the Status Offense Diversion Project Grant Program.

The Juvenile Justice Reform Task Force recommended funding for a pilot project to expand juvenile courts' use of diversion programs to keep youth out of the formal juvenile justice system. Commissioners said Van Buren County has made significant progress in youth diversion efforts, and applying for one of five available $100,000 one-time grants would allow for the expansion of the diversion team to include a contracted position focused on truancy intervention.

The sustainability of this position would rely on future 75 percent reimbursement from the Child Care Fund, ensuring long-term support for truancy prevention services in collaboration with a provider committed to working with Van Buren County youth.

If awarded, the grant would have no immediate financial impact and could be incorporated into the FY27 Child Care Fund, with partial funding considered for FY26 if necessary.

Commissioners approved an application and placement site agreement with the Local Initiatives Support Coalition (LISC) to serve as an AmeriCorps host site to support a community redevelopment liaison who will assist local units with redevelopment and housing initiatives.

Van Buren County seeks to partner with the Local Initiatives Support Coalition (LISC) to host an AmeriCorps Community Redevelopment Liaison to assist local units with redevelopment and housing initiatives. The liaison will support the Community Services Department in guiding local units through the Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) process, enhancing eligibility for grant funding and economic development opportunities. The AmeriCorps member will be a LISC employee, receiving a $42,200 stipend for 1,700 hours over 11 months, with a required local match of $17,000, funded through contributions from participating units and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program income.

Commissioners approved the reclassification of the assistant prosecuting attorney and the chief assistant prosecuting attorney to be reflected on the county courts administrators' wage scale, effective immediately.

The current pay scale for assistant prosecuting attorneys is outdated and inconsistent with comparable county positions, making recruitment and retention difficult, according to commissioners.

Commissioners approved that assistant prosecuting attorneys should be reclassified to Level 35 and the chief assistant prosecuting Attorney to Level 37 on the county court administrators' wage scale. The estimated cost of $25,848.33 for the 2025 fiscal year will be offset by an unfilled assistant prosecuting attorney position, requiring no budget adjustments.

Commissioners approved the Michigan Department (MDOT) contract 2022-0144/P8 for Federal Section 5311 operating assistance.

The contract provides Federal Section 5311 operating assistance for Fiscal Year 2025 in the amount of $435,861 to support Van Buren Public Transit operations. These funds represent 18 percent of estimated eligible costs for FY 2025 and are provided by the Federal Transit Administration, United States Department of Transportation, and MDOT to assist in the operation of rural public transportation services.

Approval of the contract is necessary to secure continued federal and state funding for Van Buren Public Transit operations, which provide essential transportation services to the residents of Van Buren County.

Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approved an amendment to the third-party contract with CPM Construction. Van Buren County Transit requires an amendment to the third-party contract with CPM Construction for its ongoing construction project. The amendment includes one change order for the addition of eight data drop rough-ins at a cost of $2,640. This increases the total contract amount to $570,090, which will be covered by previously approved funds from the Transit budget.

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6 pm-7 pm
CHILDREN: Clark Lewis' Juggling Stunt Show
Thursday, Feb. 27
10 am-10:45 am
BABIES & TODDLERS: Mother Goose on the Loose
Thursday, Feb. 27
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Third Annual Paw Paw Chili Walk to be held Saturday, Feb. 22

PAW PAW - The third annual Paw Paw Chili Walk will be held Saturday, Feb. 22, from noon until 4 p.m.in downtown Paw Paw.

In addition to the Chili Cookoff, there will be smores, warming stations, chili, entertainment, giveaways, and sales all throughout downtown.

Interested individuals who would like to be involved in the event can e-mail Sarah at: catering@creativecateringservices.com.

Nearly 30 locations in downtown Paw Paw will be involved in the event including:

Great Lakes Pondscapes – Dessert
Here in the Mitten – Sales and family friendly crafts
The Lucky Wolf – Chili
Masonic Temple - Chili
SH Salon - Chili
J & K Pet Services – Dog treats and water
Plain Jane's Antiques - Storewide sales and giveaway prizes
Paw Paw Country Market - Chili
G G Sweets - Vegan chili, sweets, shopping
Creative Catering – Chili (At the Barton Group Suite 101)
Delille Acres Little Red Meat Shed – Cornbread (At the Barton Group Suite 101)
Sly's Seafood & Co. - Chili
Paw Paw District Library – Build your Own Chili Spice Mix (At Paw Paw Chamber of Commerce)
Arbor Financial Credit Union – Bottled water and crackers (At Paw Paw Chamber of Commerce)
Taylor's Florist & Gifts – Hot chocolate and Rice Krispy treats
Perfect Storm – Free comic books
Bethany Christian Services - Freebies and info (At Words on Pages)
Mattawan Mechanical – Chili (At Words on Pages)
Brewster's Food & Spirits/Dyckman House - Chili
Whatever Floats Your Boat - Spicy Fruity Balls
H2Design & Co. – Spicy sales and more
Girl Scout Troop 80281- Selling cookies (At H2 Design)
Sporty's Pub – Chili
Malia's Taqueria – Chili
LaCantina – Chili
Warner Vineyards – Chili
Family Fare – Chili
Paw Paw Brewery – Chili
Paw Paw Fire Department - Chili – judging and awards.

The event is sponsored by Schuitmaker Moraitis Law Office, Great Lakes Pondscapes, Golden Star Reality, Inc.

Gordon Food Service, Paw Paw Village Players, Mary Beth Sons Realtor, Arbor Financial Credit Union, Village of Paw Paw Downtown Development Authority, GG Sweets, Creative Catering, and H2 Design.

Manhattan Dolls to bring vintage harmony to South Haven

By James Windell

If you grew up listening to the music of the big band era and the World War II era, you'll love the Manhattan Dolls.

The Manhattan Dolls, a Tucson, Arizona-based trio will be performing on February 23, 2025 at the First Congregational Church in South Haven.

With a sound modeled after the Andrews Sisters, a trio that made songs such as "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," "Bei Mir Bist Du Schoen," and "Rum and Coca Cola" popular in the 1930s and 40s, the Manhattan Dolls not only evoke the close harmonies of the Andrews Sisters, but they try to emulate them as nearly as possible like the originals.

Heather Stricker DeBenedetti, the founder and leader of the Manhattan Dolls, said she listened to the Andrews Sisters records and transcribed their arrangements trying to copy what they did as closely as possible. "There's no sheet music that shows you how they accomplished their sounds," Heather said in a recent phone interview from her home in Tucson.

Although the Manhattan Dolls were formed in New York in 2009, they have not previously performed in South Haven.

"Because we know Lisa Otey and Diane Van Deurzen, we stop in South Haven when we are on our Midwest tour every year to have dinner," Heather said. Lisa Otey and Diane Van Deurzen are directors of the Concert series at First Congregational Church. Heather said the trio does perform every year at the Cornwell's Dinner Theater in Marshall, Michigan.

"I knew Lisa at the Gaslight Theater in Tucson, where I live," Heather said. "She and I performed together for years and she is the reason I got the job at the theater. Then I met Diane through her. They do their show at venues here in Arizona each year."

When Heather left Tucson to go to New York City to perform, she wound up doing off-Broadway showcases and Broadway tours for 11 years. "One of my favorite jobs was being a USO girl," she says. "That's when I learned to love the songs of the WWII era. But when I left that job. I decided to try to continue singing those songs by forming the Manhattan Dolls."

Since 2009, the Dolls have traveled the world performing for military events, air shows, award ceremonies, parades, jazz clubs, and in concert series.

When they perform at First Congregational Church, it will be a unique show. "This is the only show like this we are doing on the entire tour," Heather says. "We will be giving the audience a taste of every single show that we do. The audience will get a little taste of our WWII era show, our 50s & 60s era show, a little taste of our Good Morning, Vietnam Show and even a few songs from our country girls show."

The Manhattan Dolls concert on Sunday, February 23, 2025 will begin at 3:00 pm at the First Congregational Church UCC, 651 Phoenix Street, South Haven. Tickets, available at the door, are $20. For information, call (269) 637-3804, opt. 5.

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Trinity Lutheran celebrates National Lutheran Schools Week

PAW PAW - Trinity Lutheran School, Paw Paw, recently celebrated National Lutheran Schools Week with a variety of events. The celebration began on Sunday with students in preschool through fifth grade, each carrying a small cross, marching into the church sanctuary singing "Lift High the Cross". The students also offered a musical medley of songs and distributed "thank you hearts" to the congregation.

Students also helped during the service by reading the Old Testament and Epistle lessons. The service was followed with a thank-you lunch served by the school staff. The week that followed was filled with daily themed events for the students ending with a family movie and pizza party on Friday night in the school gym.

Trinity is celebrating its 40th year of Christ-centered school ministry. School enrollment for the 2025-2026 year is now open for the community. Community families considering an education for their children with smaller class sizes In a Christian setting, are asked to call the school for a personal tour or visit the Trinity Lutheran School website for enrollment information and parent and alumni testimonials.

Estate planning event to be held at South Haven library

SOUTH HAVEN - Schuitmaker Moraitis Law Office extends an invitation to the community to a discussion on estate planning, "You're Dead. Now What? Do you know the Basics of Estate Planning?" Thursday, Feb. 27, from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at the South Haven Memorial Library Community Room.

This informative session will cover the fundamental aspects of estate planning, helping attendees understand wills, trusts, powers of attorney, and other essential legal documents that ensure their wishes are honored. Estate planning experts from Schuitmaker Moraitis Law Office will provide insights and answer common questions, empower individuals to plan for the future with confidence.

"Estate planning isn't just about assets - it's about protecting your loved ones and making sure your wishes are carried out," said Attorney Christopher Moraitis. "We encourage everyone, regardless of age or financial situation, to take this opportunity to learn how to secure their legacy."

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Schuitmaker Moraitis Law Office at (269) 657-3177.

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SPORTS

Paw Paw boys win share of title

PAW PAW — Paw Paw boys basketball team has won four straight games.

On Tuesday Feb. 11th at Niles it was Paw Paw 54, Niles 51. Paw Paw trailed at half-time 33-27 but led 43-39 after the third.

Truman Brennan had 15 points, two rebounds, six assists, two steals

Kaelin Tate 11 points, one reb, six assists, and two steals.

Caden Bowen 10 points, one rebound, one assist and five steals.

Barron Marinich had 10 points, three rebounds and one assist.

"This was a big win for us, as we have not beaten Niles since 2022 and they are the defending Wolverine Champions," Paw Paw coach Aaron Beery said. "They beat us back in December so it was good to get that one back. The third quarter was the game changer for us by holding them to six points. Our defense has been very good of late and was the deciding factor in that pivotal third quarter. We keep finding ways to win. It was an excellent overall team effort."

On Friday Feb 14, it was Paw Paw 62, Three Rivers 40. Paw Paw had quarter leads of 9-5, 32-23 and 42-32.

Stat leaders were:

Truman Brennan 21 Pts, 4 Rebs, 6 Assists, 3 Steals.

Kaelin Tate 10 Pts, 5 Rebs, 2 Assists, 5 Steals.

Barron Marinich 9 Pts, 4 Rebs, 2 Assists.

Caden Bowen 9 Pts, 5 Rebs, 6 Assists, 2 Steals.

"With this win the Red Wolves clinched at least a share of the Wolverine Conference Championship," Beery said. "With a win on Friday, we will win the conference by ourselves. This is our first conference title since entering the Wolverine Conference and the first one in 21 years. An outstanding accomplishment by this group.

"We have now won 4 straight games including huge wins over Plainwell (46-37) and Grand Rapids Catholic Central (40-38). We are starting to play our best basketball as we head into districts. Still have two regular season games left, Portage Northern on Tuesday and Otsego on Friday. Looking forward to closing the season strong and riding some momentum into the postseason. We have clinched the No. 2 seed in our district and will play the winner of Parchment and Otsego on Wednesday February 26th at 7 p.m. at Otsego."

Gobles cheerleaders end solid season

Gobles cheerleaders closed out a strong season.

By John Raffel
Correspondent

GOBLES — The Gobles Lady Tigers competitive cheer team had an outstanding season.

"This small team of six worked hard all season to continue to push for each goal they set for themselves," coach Sarah Ashbrook said. "They ended Districts with the seasons highest score and highest round three score.

They are a blend of young talent with two seasoned seniors and an exchange student from Italy. Bring it back Blue team one was coachable and hard working from the start. They really had one goal to break 600, they did that in the third meet the first league meet. Had some bumps and changes along the way but finished 4th in our league and went in to Districts with wanting to end with their best scores.

"Nerves were a little high and round 1 and 2 were solid performances just not their best ones they have put out. Round 3 was the best round of the day for them. The race was a tight one for the 4th spot this season. We were 9.4 points from the 4th place team moving on to Regionals. They went up 103 points from the first meet to the last meet. It's been a great first season with this team."

Paw Paw finished second in its district and will advance to the regionals this weekend.

Gobles wrestlers place

Gobles wrestlers will now go to the state finals.

By John Raffel
Correspondent

GOBLES — Danny Timms, Devin Doorlag, Mason Mansfield, Colton Colingsworth, and Brody Marshall all placed at the Individual Regional Championships in Martin and will advance to the State Championships on Feb 28. Mason earned Gold, while Devin and Danny earned Silver.

"Mason Mansfield set his pace from the first whistle and did not let up until he reached the top of the podium," coach Erin Carlin said. "He ended the day with eight takedowns and one win by Fall. Devin Doorlag and Danny Timms pushed their way into the finals with decisive victories in their first two matches that secured their trips to Ford Field. Brody started strong but was slowed in his second match.

"He battled back with two consecutive victories to earn his ticket to the State Championship. Colton Colingsworth took an early defeat in his first match, but he kept fighting for the next point until he secured three straight victories and a chance to compete on the state's biggest stage."

Carlin added: "Our boys are tough. They know that the outcome is not theirs to control. However, we want them to keep looking for the next point. Colton and Brody both lost and both got behind in their matches, but they controlled the match pace and kept seeking the next point. In the end, that is what set them apart from their competition and that is why they are going to Detroit in two weeks."

The Tigers' State Qualifiers will travel to Detroit for the State Championships on February 28.

Tigers Coaches, Erin Carlin and John Weldon were recognized as Head Coach and Assistant Coach of the Year by their peers at the Regional Championships on February 15.

Lawrence girls defeat Bloomingdale

By John Raffel
Correspondent

It was Lawrence, 39, Bloomingdale 21 in girls basketball action on Monday.

Junior Carolina Mancera had 19 points while sophomore Colleen McCaw has 14 points.

Lawrence lost on Feb. 14 to Decatur 35-30.

Hailey Camp had 13 points for Lawrence.

On Feb 11, Lauren lost to Centreville 48-23. Camp had 13 points for Lawrence.

Lawrence beat Eau Claire 60-14 on Feb. 10. Camp had 21 points, 17 rebounds and five blocks for Lawrence. Brooklyn Remelts had 12 points. Colleen McCaw added 11 points.

Lawrence was scheduled to play at Cassopolis on Feb. 18, home with Marcellus one Feb. 21, home with Cassopolis on Feb. 21 and at Bloomingdale on Feb. 25. Lawrence will host Comstock on Feb. 27 to end the regular season.

The Lawrence girls are 11-6.

The Lawrence boys are 4-16. Lawrence lost on Feb. 17 to Three Oaks River Valley 47-4 but defeated Decatur 40-36 on Feb, 13 and lost to Centreville 74-40 on Feb. 11 but beat Fennville 47-42 on Feb. 10.

Lawrence plays at Marcellus on Feb. 21

Gobles boys defeat Climax Scott

By John Raffel

GOBLES — Gobles defeated Climax Scotts 54-44 in recent boys basketball action (Feb. 10).

Jayden Otis had 22 points and 14 rebounds for Gobles.

It was Galesburg 61, Gobles 37 on Feb. 14.

Gobles is 11-7 on the year.

Gobles will be home on Feb. 19 with Bloomingdale, at Saugatuck on Feb. 21 and at Kalamazoo Christian on Feb. 24.

Gobles girls are 11-7 but have lost three straight games including 71-39 to Galesburg Augusta on the road on Feb 14 and at Allegan 46-41 on Feb. 10.

Coming up will be a home game with Kalamazoo Hackett Catholic on Feb. 18. There are also road games with Saugatuck on Feb 21 and with Climax Scotts on Feb. 25.

Lawton basketball

Lawton's boys basketball team is 6-13 after having lost its last six games. Lawton lost 56-53 at home to Coloma on Feb. 17 and 52-48 to Parchment on Feb. 14. Lawton lost to Watervliet 70-55 on Feb. 11.

Lawton will host Kalamazoo Christian on Feb. 21.

The Lawton girls are 13-4 after beating Parchment 45-32 on Feb. 14.

Lawton wrestlers fall in regionals

By John Raffel
Correspondent

LAWTON — Lawton's wrestling season came to an end with a 77-5 loss to Martin in the regional semifinals on Feb. 12.

For Lawton, Rafael Solis (285) was pinned in 44 seconds by Cooper Dinse, AJ Terry (106) was pinned by Jacinto Lopez in 3:47, Noah Mallory (113) was pinned by Uriah Joostberns in 1:19, Lawton forfeited at 120, 165 and 175 to Martin; Austin Garcia (126) beat Jaques Porlier 17-1;

Noah Withers (132) was pinned in 1:36 by Mason Morales; Jacob Boswell (138) out 17-1 to Logan Curry, Cameron Vyverman (144) was pinned by Seth Toris in 144; Greyson Burrous (150) was pinned by Haylen Buel in 20 seconds; Dillon Carlson (157) was pinned in 50 seconds by Jack Bagwell; Jack Fletcher (190) was pinned in 1:27 by Malcolm Smith and Hayden Russell (215) was pinned by Sam Bleeker in 1:20.

Lawton had wins of 63-6 over Lawrence and 53-28 over Bangor in the team districts on Feb. 5.

Winners for Lawton in the win over Bangor were Noah Withers, Cameron Vyverman Dillon Carlson, Jack Fletcher, Rafael Solis, AJ Terry, Noah Mallory, Austin Garcia and Trenton Bigelow.

Lawton wrestler having strong season

By John Raffel
Correspondent

LAWTON - Austin Garcia's amazing wrestling season at Lawton High School continues at an impressive pace.

He was 3-0 earlier this month to win the individual district title. He was 3–0 last weekend to win the regional.

His record coming into February was 32-1. Garcia won the Gull Lake tournament and Ron Russo tournament.

"I got my 150th career with this year, and have beaten a handful of ranked guys this year," Garcia said. "My strengths on the mat are when I'm on my feet and when I get in on a shot, I finish out 99 percent of the time.

"I'm also strong on top with my riding and I can turn guys if they end up in a wrong spot. Goals for the rest of the season are to 3-peat as a conference, district and regional champion and the main goal is to win a state title. To reach these goals, it will take a lot of grinding in the wresting room, working my weak spots, lifting and conditioning."

Garcia is planning on college wrestling in Minot State University, N.D.

"What led me to Minot's program was their family culture, everyone out there is welcoming and nice, their facilities are really nice, good coaches and I want to be able to develop as a better wrestler," Garcia said.

Garcia was also part of a very fine Lawton football program.

He played free safety during football but not much offense. Some highlights included being all-conference and all-regional for the second year in a row. He had three interceptions and around 75 tackles.

Garcia does not play a spring sport but wrestles in the spring.

"My favorite sport is wrestling," he said, "because it teaches you how to be mentally strong in tough times. It also pushes you physically with strength and it has teached me to be a better person in life. I also have an itch to always be on the mat. It's basically my medicine on the ice."

Mattawan wrestler qualifies for state

By John Raffel
Correspondent

MATTAWAN — Dylan Putman will be representing Mattawan in the state individual wrestling finals on Feb. 28 and March 1 at Ford Field in Detroit.

Putman placed fourth in the 113 pound weight class in regional action on Saturday. The top four finishers in each regional weight class advance to the state meet.

Putman lost 16-1 to Layne Martin of Rockford in his first match. But he won his next two with a win in 27 seconds over Lucas Hutton of Granville and a 3-0 decision over Connor Wallace of Howell.

In the battle for third place, Putnam lost 7-3 to Bronson Shinkonis of Brighton.

Other regional qualifiers for Mattawan included Brady Desrosier at 126 pounds. He lost 14-4 to Hayden Bessinger and was pinned in 21 seconds by Jordan Humphrey of Hastings.

Another Mattawan qualifier was Kevin Schoonbeck who was pinned in 4:00 by Cooper Arntz of Hudsonville.

But he then pinned Nicolas Campos of Forest Hills Northern in 2:06. He lost his last match n a pin in 3:51 to Nate Stark of Brighton.

Aidan Robinson at 215 pounds lost 16-1 to John Schepers of Hudsonville in 2:10 and to Tyler Meeusen of East Kentwood on a pin in 2:10.

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VIEWPOINT

Engaging with scammers- don't follow my son's lead

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX ■ PUBLISHER ■

I was talking with my son recently, and somehow we got on the topic of these pre-recorded prank calls he used to get. Unlike most of us he enjoys engaging with these pranksters. He know they are fraudsters but gets enjoyment out of carrying on a conversation with them.

It all started with a late-night call, from an Asian man who introduced himself as Fung Lau, and wanted compensation for my son t-boning his vehicle. (Anyone who knows my son, knows he doesn't drive.) My son politely explained that and hung up the phone.

However, "Fung Lau" called back the very next day. Although, in that call, his name wasn't Fung Lau, he didn't have an Asian accent, and he wasn't calling about his car. It was something completely different.

This went on for months. At about 12, 1 a.m., "Fung Lau" would call about some fictional occurrence, or with strange request, and always with a new name and accent.

My son would pick up, and respond to his questions, just to see where it led the conversation. He recorded a few of the more hilarious ones. Here are the transcripts.

CAN I CONNECT TO YOUR WIFI?

Yeah. Hello. This is Rakeesh.

Hello, Rakeesh.

I live in the neighborhood, actually. Could I ask you but one favor?

Sure!

Yeah, listen, my internet is not working right now. So I wanted to just connect to your Wi-Fi. Can you give me the password?

Listen to me Rakeesh…

Don't worry. I'm only going to use it for one day and then my internet will be back up.

I know.

So what?! I have work to do. I can't do work without internet.

You're going to do work at one o'clock in the morning?

Can't you just help me out?

Are you doing work at one o'clock in the morning?

Listen, I have your IP address, okay. So, if you don't give me the password, I will just connect directly to your computer.

That's not how that works.

I work in IT support, so I know how to hack into a computer, okay. You don't want to mess with me, mother yucker!

You don't want to mess with me either, because I work for the Michigan State Police.

Okay, so IP number 78.157.34.50. I'm going to connect to your computer right now

Is that right? Try it with me.

Call disconnects.

YOU PUT A BONE IN MY PIZZA!

Hello

Hello

Yeah, I want to make a complaint about a food experience I have in your store

Sure.

I took a bite into a slice of your pizza… and I chip my tooth on a bone

Ah, I see.

I could have choked on it mother yucker. Since when do you start putting bones in the pizza?

Actually, it's not a regular thing. We did it especially for you.

I want to get compensation for this. Can you deliver to me, two free pizzas for the inconvenience?

Unfortunately, we are closed.

Why don't I just put comments all over the internet saying you put a bone in my pizza? I will have everybody in my call center give you zero stars. Have it your way, mother trucker!

Thank you! Have fun in your self-admitted call center, threatening to hack my internet and harassing me over pizza.

Call disconnects.

CAN I BUY YOUR DOG?

Hello.

Hi. It's Abdu. How are you?

I'm good. How are you?

I live in the neighborhood, actually. I had one important question to ask you. Do you have a second?

Sure.

Yeah, I've seen you walking your dog in the neighborhood. It's always been like the cutest dog I have ever seen in my life. What is their name if you don't mind me asking?

It's Rakeesh.

Are you still with me?

I'm with you.

Listen, I want to buy that dog from you, please. How much would you be willing to sell it to me for?

I don't have a dog.

Look, name your price. I will pay anything. 500? 1000? 1500?

I don't have a dog.

Okay, okay, look, 2000 dollars, final offer.

I don't have a dog.

Speak up. I can't hear you.

I don't have a dog, sir. I can't sell you a dog.

Come on. It's not even worth half that much. Are you stupid?

I don't have a dog.

Okay. Listen to me. You better keep that thing on the leash, or I'm going to come over here and steal it from you. Okay?

I'm going to come over there and report you for these dog and pizza calls.

Call disconnects.

YOUR DOG POOPED ON MY LAWN!

Yeah. Hi there. This is Buck calling. How are you doing?

I'm good. How are you?

I don't think we ever met, actually. I'm your neighbor… Listen, okay. I'll just come to the chase. I'm tired of picking up your dog poop off my lawn.

Well, you see, I don't have a dog.

I've seen you walking the dog, okay. He poo poo all oooover my doorstep and you don't ever pick it up.

I don't have a dog.

What did you say?

I said I don't have a dog.

Don't make excuse with me, okay. Stop being a big liar.

You listen to me. I don't have a dog.

Yesterday, I stepped in a big piece of doo-doo. I spent the whole day cleaning the feces off my shoes.

I'm sure you did.

Don't let it happen again, okay… or there's going to be big trouble for you and your dog.

I don't have a dog.

Calm down, Big Boy!

Hey, listen to me…

I'm going to come leave a big stink right on your doorstep, ok Big Boy?

Hey! Hey! Listen to me…

Okay. I'm coming to knock on the door right now, okay?

Yeah, I'm waiting. I'm right here. Come knock on my door.

45 seconds of silence, then the call disconnects.

Be careful when you pick up your phone and you don't recognize the person on the other end. Fraudsters have dozens of scams. Some involve impersonating police or the IRS. Others want to buy your car or sell you a purebed dog. Be vigilant, and never engage with these people, unless your my son, of course.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

BY G.C. STOPPEL

I came to know John Thistle when we played bagpipes in the Fourth Battalion of the West Mosby Volunteers Band. The name came from a tiny village a few miles outside of Mosby, Mont. He was a good man and great father.

One summer he and his son bought a 1947 Plymouth they worked together restoring most nights in his garage. John said all his son could think about was how much fun he would have once they finished the job and he could slip behind the wheel.

He laughed at how his son liked the bench front seat because some day a girlfriend could slide left to ride next to him. If you are one of the Olds who had a car before bucket seats, you know that was a lot of teenagers' aspiration.

One night, after hearing enough of his son's prattle, John set down the tool he was using, looked at the boy and said, "You're probably having as much fun now restoring this car as you will ever have driving it. How about focusing on the present and enjoying it?"

Every so often, when I'm either looking to the past or fantasizing about the future, that suggestion comes back to mind.

Have you ever gone to a high school class reunion? Before long, all the jocks would recall their glory days playing sports. The theater nerds talked about past performances that were either magnificent or utter failures. Or we would recall the best or worst teacher, school trips and other people and events from a bygone decade.

Were it a 25th reunion when many classmates were still working, their other main topics of conversation were post-retirement plans, seeing their children off to college, upcoming weddings, their eagerness to seee new grands or some other milestone event. Usually these were a few years ahead.

They were like John Jr., missing the present moment. Much of their lives were either in the rearview mirror or well ahead down the road.

A friend recalled taking a woman to a Detroit Tigers game. She brought along a book. They broke up because she was not interested in experiencing something new in the moment. He was enjoying the game but she was lost in a novel.

The poor fellow had rotten luck with his social life. Later he went out on a date that lasted almost to the end of dinner, then suddenly it was "Check, please!" Just before dessert she started asking about names for future babies.

It's hard living in the moment. Many of us have silent conversations rattling in our brains about what we need to or should do soon. Either that or we are recalling something from the past. Though that can be a good thing, it can impede living in the present.

Actor William Shatner may be prickly, but he lives in the moment and is perpetually enthusiastic. If he sits down to a meal, even sardines on toast, he will exclaim, "These are the best sardines I've ever had — and get a load of this toast. It's wonderful!"

The late English author R.F. Delderfield started his career more than 100 years ago as a reporter for the local paper. His job was to interview residents who just had a death in the family, take notes, go back to the office and write the obituary.

In his two autobiographies, Delderfield wrote about how he had to train himself to ask questions and rake notes, but not mentally start the first draft.

To learn how to live in the moment, try this unpopular approach the next time you have a family dinner. Go from person to person and shake them down for their mobile phones and devices. Trust me, they'll hate you for it.

Stay firm, smile and tell them, "It hurts me more than you, but it's for your own good."

Take the phones into another room and close the door, so no one can hear the ringer on their device.

Life will be awkward and unpleasant for a few minutes. Do not give in! Soon everyone will start talking to each other.

They may have such a good time they won't notice the absence of their phones. Why, they will be so engaged with the other guests they will even let you clean the table, put away the leftovers, wash and dry the dishes and not even think to offer help.

Consider that an achievement!

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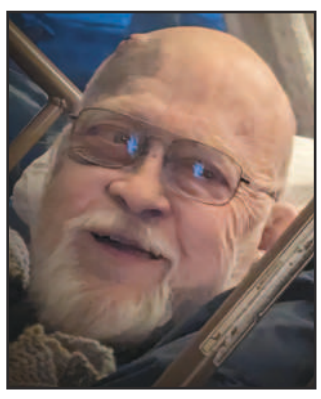
OBITUARY

Dennis Eugene Carter



Dennis Eugene was born with the infamous "Carter Scowl" on Feb. 5, 1947, in South Bend, IN, to Pinkney Eugene and Norma Jean (Cook) Carter. In the middle of five other siblings, Butch, as he came to be called, spent his youth raising Cain while also excelling in school. He graduated in 1964, a year early, and enlisted into the United States Navy, completing a full tour in Vietnam and serving from August 1964 to December 1967. Just prior to enlisting, Butch met his wife, Judy, on a blind date through mutual friends on Jan. 2, 1964. They spent many weekends together while their love for each other flourished and they were married June 25, 1966. For the next 58 years their family tree would grow and branch with the two of them as the anchoring roots.

Shortly after leaving the Navy, Butch joined the Sheet Metal Workers Union and spent a majority of his career at W. Soule & Co., Kalamazoo, MI. He retired from there in 2002, after a very influential tenure leaving behind a legacy and the "Butch List."

Butch's favorite pastime, besides crosswords, puzzles, reading, and anything Notre Dame, was watching any and all Lawton Blue Devil athletics events. On any given evening, he could be found in the stands or on the wall of the gym cheering on whatever Blue Devil team was playing. He was a true super fan and his notorious "Come on you guys!" could be heard throughout the crowd on Friday nights when he didn't like the outcome of a play on the football field. He never missed a game even after his cancer diagnosis, at one point being discharged from the hospital to go directly to his grandsons' football game.

Butch is survived by his wife, Judy (Prehn) Carter; his children, Jason (Laurie) Carter and Tara Pollock; his eight grandchildren, Dominick (Ashleigh), Mark, Victor, Kayla (Robert), Armand (Ambrea), Kyle (Megan), William, and Cody; his 16 great-grandchildren; his brother, Kevin Carter, as well as a bonus daughter, Lisa Oxley and grandchildren, Jaunica Fouth and Jordan Oxley.

He is preceded in death by his parents and siblings, Mary Pawlak, Will Carter, Bruce Carter, and Janis Slisz.

Family and friends are invited to visit Friday, Feb. 21, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Adams Funeral Home, 502 W. Michigan Avenue, Paw Paw. A memorial service will be held Saturday, Feb. 22, at 2 p.m. at the Red Brick Hall, 301 N. Main St., Lawton. A reception will follow until 6 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Lawton Athletic Boosters, PO Box 39, Lawton, MI, 49065, or Lawton Community Schools, 101 Primary Way, Lawton, MI, 40965.

Share a memory or sign the online guestbook at adamspawpaw.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

State of Michigan
Probate Court Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS DECEDENT'S ESTATE
Case No. 2025-1010-DE
Estate of **DONALD P. BREZINSKI, DECEASED**
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **Donald P. Brezinski, died December 18, 2024 (12/18/2024).**
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Christopher Moraits,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at **212 E. Paw Paw St. #220, Paw Paw, MI 49079** and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
February 11,2025 (2/4/2025)
Attorney:
Schuitmaker Moraitis Law Office, P.C.
Christopher N. Moraitis P87052
181 West Michigan Ave.,
Ste. 1, P.O.Box 520
Paw Paw, MI 49079
269-657-3177
Personal Representative
Schuitmaker Moraitis Law Office, P.C.
Christopher N. Moraitis P87052
181 West Michigan Ave.,
Ste. 1, P.O.Box 520
Paw Paw, MI 49079
269-657-3177

State of Michigan
Probate Court County of Van Buren
Publication of Notice
In the matter of **EDWARD STEPHENS WRIGHT, DECEASED**
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Charles Wright; Mary Wright; Mark Wright; John Wright, Heirs of Betty Wright; Heirs of Annette Zurwalski; Heirs of George Wright: and Heirs of Kenneth Wright
whose address(es) are uniknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE:
Edward Stephens Wright passed away on December 31, 2021, (12/31/2021). Stacy Jones is seeking appointment of Personal Representative for this estate. You have 14 days from the date of this publication to file a petition for formal proceedings to appoint a personal representative, file a competing application for informal appointment of yourself as personal representative provided you by a higher priority to be appointed, or by contacting an attorney for assistant in representing you in any proceeding you wish to file in the court. If you do not take action withing 14 days Stacy Jones may be appointed personal representative.
February 14, 2025
Attorney:
Elizabeth Robinson P84345
4341 S. Westnedge Ave Ste 1200
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(269) 344-0700
Personal Representative
Stacy Jones
3285 110th Ave
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 355-0992

State of Michigan
Judicial Circity - Family Division
Van Buren County
PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING REGARDING PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE
CASE NO. 2024-7002-NC
JUDGE SUSAN METZGER P62867
IN THE MATTER OF **Flossie West**
To All Persons, including: whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: Flossie West has filed a petition for name change.
A name change hearing will be held on March 13, 2025 (3/13/2025) at 9:45 am at the Probate Court, Courtroom #3 before Judge Susan Metzger P62867 to change the name of:
Flossie Ann West to Flossie Ann Moon

State of Michigan
36th Judicial District • Judicial Circit • County Probate
ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION/ POSTING AND NOTICE OF ACTION
CASE NO.2024-0000074357-CH
Plaintiff:
Bethany Presbyterian Church
208 W. Exchange St., Gobles, MI 49055
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Plaintiff's Attorney:
Shane A. Henry (82054)
Wheeler Upham, P.C.
250 Monroe Ave. NW, Ste. 100, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616-459-7100
V
Defendant:
Unknown Does
Addresses and Telephone Numbers Unknown

TO: Unknown heirs of Hiram and Susan Goble
It Is Ordered:
1. You are being sued in this court by the plaintiff to quiet title in the property located at 202 W. Exchange St., Gobles, MI 49055. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before March 27th. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.
2. A copy of this order shall be published once each week in The Courier Leader for three consecutive weeks, and proof of publication shall be filed in this court.

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: SID L. BERRY; ATTY: ORLANS; 1ST PUB: 1/30/2025; ATTY FILE #: 24-016961; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on FEBRUARY 27, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Sid L. Berry and Dana M. Berry, husband and wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for CitiMortgage, Inc., Mortgagee, dated April 23, 2007 and recorded April 30, 2007 in Liber 1482, Page 767 Van Buren County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Apex Bank, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Thirty-Eight Thousand Fifty-Two and 58/100 Dollars ($138,052.58).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Van Buren County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on FEBRUARY 27, 2025.
Said premises are located in the Township of Columbia, Van Buren County Michigan, and are described as:
COMMENCING ON THE SOUTH SECTION LINE AT A POINT 180 FEET EAST OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE EAST HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 29, TOWN 1 SOUTH, RANGE 15 WEST, ACCORDING TO THE GOVERNMENT SURVEY THEREOF; THENCE NORTH PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH AND SOUTH EIGHTH LINE 603.42 FEET; THENCE EASTERLY 609.6 FEET TO A POINT 603.6 FEET NORTH OF THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 29; THENCE SOUTHERLY 603.6 FEET TO THE SOUTH SECTION LINE AT A POINT 609.42 FEET EASTERLY FROM THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE WESTERLY ON SAID SOUTH SECTION LINE 609.42 FEET TO BEGINNING, EXCEPT COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PARCEL; THENCE WEST ON SAID SOUTH LINE OF THE SECTION 150 FEET; THENCE NORTH PARALLEL WITH SAID NORTH AND SOUTH EIGHTH LINE 338 FEET; THENCE EAST PARALLEL WITH SAID SOUTH SECTION LINE TO THE EAST LINE OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PARCEL; THENCE SOUTH ON SAID EAST LINE TO BEGINNING.
55280 Country Road 380, Grand Junction, Michigan 49056
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: January 30, 2025
File No. 24-016961
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(01-30)(02-20)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: KELLY L. BRAUTIGAM; ATTY: ORLANS; 1ST PUB: 1/30/2025; ATTY FILE #: 24-016217; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on FEBRUARY 27, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Kelly L. Brautigam, to Terry Dornan, Mortgagee, dated September 14, 2001 and recorded October 8, 2001 in Liber 1340, Page 945 Van Buren County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Bayview Financial Mortgage Pass-Through Trust 2006-D, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-D, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty Thousand Two Hundred Seventeen and 93/100 Dollars ($50,217.93).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Van Buren County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on FEBRUARY 27, 2025.
Said premises are located in the Village of DECATUR, Van Buren County Michigan, and are described as:
LOT 16, BLOCK L, OF THE VILLAGE OF DECATUR, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT OF 1905, BEING A PART OF THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 19, TOWN 4 SOUTH, RANGE 14 WEST, ACCORDING TO THE GOVERNMENT SURVEY THEREOF, EXCEPT THE SOUTHEASTERLY 50 FEET WIDE OF LOT 16.
201w Saint Marys St, Decatur, Michigan 49045
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: January 30, 2025
File No. 24-016217
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(01-30)(02-20)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: LESLIE TAPIA; ATTY: ORLANS; 1ST PUB: 2/13/2025; ATTY FILE #: 25-001332; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on APRIL 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Leslie Tapia, a single person, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Better Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated January 16, 2024 and recorded January 23, 2024 in Liber 1761, Page 253 Van Buren County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by JPMMT HELOC Participation Trust, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Seven Thousand Four Hundred Forty-One and 33/100 Dollars ($127,441.33).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Van Buren County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on APRIL 17, 2025.
Said premises are located in the City of SOUTH HAVEN, Van Buren County Michigan, and are described as:
UNIT NO. 40, THE PRESERVE AT WOODLAND HARBOR CONDOMINIUM, A CONDOMINIUM ACCORDING TO THE MASTER DEED RECORDED IN LIBER 1487, PAGE 235, INCLUSIVE AND AMENDMENTS THERETO, VAN BUREN COUNTY RECORDS, AND DESIGNATED AS VAN BUREN COUNTY CONDOMINIUM SUBDIVISION PLAN NO. 115, TOGETHER WITH RIGHTS IN GENERAL COMMON ELEMENTS AND LIMITED COMMON ELEMENTS AS SET FORTH IN THE ABOVE MASTER DEED AND AS DESCRIBED IN ACT 59 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1978, AS AMENDED.
720 Ravine Ln, South Haven, Michigan 49090
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: February 13, 2025
File No. 25-001332
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(02-13)(03-06)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: MATTHEW A MCKEAN; ATTY: QUINTAIROS PRIETO WOOD & BOYER - QUINTAIROS PRIETO WOOD & BOYER; 1ST PUB: 2/20/2025; ATTY FILE #: MI-003828; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT: Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 P.M., on April 10, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE SALE: Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Matthew A. McKean, the Mortgagor(s), and Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for First Federal Bank, the original Mortgagee, dated November 16, 2021, and recorded on December 2, 2021, in Liber 1729, at Page 902, in Van Buren County Records, Michigan, and last assigned to First Federal Bank, the Foreclosing Assignee, as documented by an Assignment of Mortgage dated October 17, 2023, and recorded on October 17, 2023, in Liber 1758, at Page 321, in Van Buren County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due and owing as of the date of this Notice, the sum of Four Hundred Fifty-Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-Six and 06/100 U.S. Dollars ($459,726.06). Said premise is situated at 61881 36th Ave., Bangor, Michigan 49013, in the Bangor Township, Van Buren County, Michigan, and is described as: THE NORTH 660 FEET OF THE WEST 660.66 FEET OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 23, TOWN 2 SOUTH, RANGE 16 WEST, BANGOR TOWNSHIP, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN. The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. Pursuant to Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, if the property is sold at foreclosure sale the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder under MCLA 600.3278 for damaging the property during the redemption period. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Dated: 02/10/2025 For More Information, please call: Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer, P.A. Attorneys for Servicer 255 South Orange Avenue, Suite 900 Orlando, Florida 32801 (855) 287-0240 Matter No. MI-003828-23-3
(02-20)(03-13)

PORTER TOWNSHIP, VBCO, MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

March 12th, 2025 – Organizational Meeting will be held at the Township Hall, located at 88040 M-40, Lawton at 9:00am. No appeals will be heard at this meeting.

March 12th – Official MBOR, held at the Township Hall from 10:00am – 4:00pm. Petitions will be heard by appointment and these can be scheduled by calling Krys at (269) 228-3331 or email **assessor@portertwpvbco.gov** Walk-ins will be seen as permits.

March 13th – MBOR, held at the Township Hall from 3:00pm – 9:00pm, located at 88040 M-40, Lawton. Appeals will be heard by appointment, which can be scheduled by calling Krys at (269) 228-3331 or emailing **assessor@portertwpvbco.gov**
Walk-ins will be seen as permits.

Paw Paw Courier Leader – **legals@vineyardpress.biz**
Marcellus News – **editor@marcellusnews.com**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING VILLAGE OF PAW PAW PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission of the Village of Paw Paw will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 7:00 pm,** at the Paw Paw Township Hall, located at 114 N. Gremps, Paw Paw, Michigan to consider the following application:

APPLICANT	PEK Investment, LLC
APPLICATION TYPE	**Special Land Use / Site Plan Review**
PROJECT ADDRESS	854 South Kalamazoo Street
PROJECT PARCEL NUMBER	80-47-583-088-02
DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST	The applicant requests site plan review of a special land use for a drive-through restaurant as part of a redevelopment project that proposes a multi-tenant retail building.

This application is available at the Village of Paw Paw offices for public examination and review during normal business hours. Interested persons may submit comments in writing before the public hearing, or appear in person at the public hearing to become part of the hearing record. The Village of Paw Paw will provide necessary and reasonable aids and services for disabled persons upon 5 days prior notice to the Village Offices at (269) 657-3148.

Kathy Larson, Chair
Village of Paw Paw Planning Commission

BLOOMINGDALE TOWNSHIP 2025 NOTICE BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BLOOMINGDALE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW FOR 2025 WILL BE HELD AT THE BLOOMINGDALE TOWNSHIP HALL, 109 E. KALAMAZOO ST., BLOOMINGDALE, MI 49026 ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

MARCH, 4 2025 (3:30 pm) ORGANIZATION MEETING
NO APPEALS NO APPEALS
MARCH 12, 2025 (9 am to 3 pm) APPEAL HEARING **

MARCH 14, 2025 (3pm to 9 pm) APPEAL HEARING **

****ALL APPEALS WILL BE HEARD BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. PLEASE CALL 269-521-3800 EXT 4 TO SCHEDULE AN Appointment. BY BOARD RESOLUTION, RESIDENTS ARE ABLE TO PROTEST BY LETTER, PROVIDED PROTEST LETTER IS RECEIVED PRIOR TO MARCH 13th 2025 BY 5:00 PM.**

TENTATIVE RATIOS AND ESTIMATED MULTIPLIERS FOR 2025 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CLASS	RATIO	FACTOR	CLASS	RATIO	FACTOR
*Agricultural	45.15%	1.1074	*Commercial	47.61%	1.0502
*Residential	46.51%	1.0750	*Industrial	47.42%	1.0544
*Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000			

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA) NOTICE:

The township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon (5) days' notice.
Contact: Michael Richmond at 269-521-3800 ext. 4.

MICHAEL RICHMOND – ASSESSOR

Extended ice-fishing season and much more

Right now the outdoorsperson has a wide range of options. For a true winter treat readers should be going to the Muskegon Winter Complex. This complex has a luge track. It's pretty rare that the average Joe will have this opportunity.

The Luge course is by reservation only. However, the complex offers much more. Cross country skiing, snow shoeing, hiking and a host of family activities are offered each and every day. It's' well worth the drive and the way the past few winters were, now is the time to try it out.

Gunner trying to dig out a rabbit in the snow

Closer to home outdoor folks should check out Hemlock Park along the Pigeon Creek and the new Sands Lake Park in northern Ottawa County. Gorgeous hiking trails and the park system offers beginner classes on both cross country skiing and snow shoeing. They also rent out the same items.

Allegan County offers 45,000 acres of public land. I really enjoy snow shoeing along the bluffs of the Kalamazoo River. Hikers will find miles of land bordering the river and it's really beautiful during the winter.

I find a winter walk to be exhilarating. The scenery is gorgeous and the photography opportunities are nearly overwhelming. Eagle nests are easier to spot just as deer, squirrel and a host of other birds and wildlife.

Barry County State Game area has much to offer. There are many small lakes that are fun to hike into. The Gun Lake area has miles of hiking trails that will take you thru hardwood, marshes, new growth and old growth stands.

Ice-fishing anglers enjoy the season. It's been a long time since we hard water this late into the year and it should last into the first week of March. As always thing safety and I would bring along some type of foot cleats.

Tip-ups are my favorite tools of the hard water season. I love setting out three tips and walking around shooting the breeze with other anglers. My favorite location when chasing pike would be a large flat that has some green weeds.

Most often we will set two tip-ups on the flat and one along the drop-off bordering the flat. Most often we start moving the tip-ups around after thirty minutes, well maybe 45 minutes if we get gabbing.

We use two baits. Sucker minnows, creek chubs and frozen smelt are the favorites. We use a quick strike rig regardless of the bait used. Our goal is to release all pike caught if possible. This is just our preference; it's the chase more than the kill.

Panfish anglers need to be prepared to move a bunch. The fish could be about anywhere. If the weeds are still partially green they will hold panfish. If the weeds are dying or dead most often the fish will move to the drop-off.

Depending on the oxygen content and the location of the plankton the fish could be suspended over the deep basin or near a point. I like fishing points. The easy points are the visual points that extend out from the shoreline.

My favorite points are the points that only a map would show. I like fishing the long underwater points or bars that have some shallow water on a side or two.

The closer that the point extends to the deepest water in the lake, the higher my excitement meter will rise. For the past three decades I have studied topographic maps. I can scout out just about any lake from home if a topo map is available. Most of your graphs come pre-loaded and you can do this from your recliner.

I would suggest reaching out to Midwest Outdoors and see if they still care Buck Perry's Spoonplug book or the 13 volume set. Another fine book that they did carry and still might is Lunkers Love Nightcrawlers. The drawings will explain what a hump is, a saddle, pinch point, breakline and so on.

Enjoy the last few weeks of winter and check out or try some of the things mentioned while the opportunity presents itself. And check out all of the great deals at Bobs Gun and Tackle Shop.

Jack Payne

Payne is a member of OWAA (outdoor writers association of America). He is an avid outdoorsperson who enjoys fishing, hunting, hiking and cooking. This column will hopefully enhance your outdoor experiences. "While I may have some knowledge, I am very fortunate that I do know many true experts that share their knowledge with me," said Payne. "Together, hopefully we all can learn and experience more fun in the great outdoors."
Payne resides in southwest Michigan. His column will appear weekly in the Courier Leader/Flashes.

There is currently an open position for a seat on the Village of Lawton Planning Commission. Boards and Commissions applications may be found on the village website: https://lawtonmi.org/#

PUBLIC NOTICE
WAVERLY TOWNSHIP
2025 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The Waverly Township March Board of Review for 2025 will be held at the Waverly Township Hall, 42114 M-43 Hwy, on the following dates:

March 4th, 2025 (8:00am – 9:00am) = **Organizational Meeting – No Appeals**
March 10th, 2025 (10:00am – 1:00pm & 2:00pm - 5:00pm) = **Appeal Hearing***
March 11th, 2025 (2:00pm – 5:00pm & 6:00pm – 9:00 pm) = **Appeal Hearing***

*By Board resolution, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 11TH, 2025.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2025 are as follows:

Class	Ratio	Factor	Class	Ratio	Factor
*Agricultural	46.96%	1.06474	*Commercial	46.38%	1.07805
*Residential	43.94%	1.13792	*Industrial	50.00%	1.00000
*Personal Property	50.00%	1.00000			

American With Disabilities (ADA) Notice
The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon (5) days notice.
Contact: (Starr Houston – 269-657-6847)

Anne Richmond
Assessor

Starr Houston
Clerk

Covert Public Schools

NOTICE OF VACANCY

Covert Public Schools is seeking applications for the current vacant position on the Covert Board of Education. An individual will be appointed to fill the vacant position until the November 2026 election.

Individuals must submit an application/letter of interest expressing interest in the Board position to the Secretary of the Van Buren Intermediate School District Board of Education, John Faul at the Van Buren Conference Center, 490 South Paw Paw Street, Lawrence, Michigan 49064 OR via email to dmanson@vbisd.org no later than noon on Friday, February 28, 2025. Application/Letter of Interest form can be found at www.vbisd.org.

Following a review of the submitted applications, the Van Buren Intermediate School District Board will schedule interviews with selected candidates between March 3-11, 2025. Not all applicants for the board vacancy may be interviewed. If you have any questions concerning the role of the Board of Education and the responsibilities of a Board member, please contact Yolanda Brunt, Superintendent of Covert Public Schools OR Dave Manson, Superintendent of Van Buren ISD.

TIMELINE

February 17 -28, 2025	Notice of vacancy advertised.
February 28, 2025	Deadline for submitting applications.
March 3-11, 2025	Board meets to review applications and hold interviews.
March 12, 2025	Board makes an appointment of the new board member.

To be eligible, a person must be a registered voter and resident in the area covered by Covert Public School District, at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the U.S., a resident of the State of Michigan for at least 30 days.

490 South Paw Paw Street * Lawrence, Michigan 49064
269.674.8091/ Fax: 269.674.8030 * vbisd.org

TOWNSHIP OF ALMENA
2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 27625 CR 375, Paw Paw, Michigan 49079, to examine and review the 2025 Assessment Roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 7:00 am Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2025, 9:00 am to Noon and 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Thursday, March 13, 2025, Noon to 3:00 pm and 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm

and on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED. Contact the Assessor at 269-655-1144 or by email at **BEN.APGLLC@GMAIL.COM** for further information. Letter appeals will be accepted and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 11, 2025. Address listed below.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	48.28%	1.0356
Commercial	46.67%	1.0714
Industrial	45.18%	1.1067
Residential	45.93%	1.0886
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Joe Leduc, Supervisor Almena Township
Ben Brousseau, Assessor Almena Township

Almena Township Board Meetings are open to all without regard to race, national origin, sex or disability.

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice
The township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days' notice to Almena Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Almena Township by writing or calling.

Sandra Rickli
Almena Township Clerk
27625 County Road 375
Paw Paw, MI 49079
269.668.6910

CLASSIFIEDS

• HELP WANTER •

PART-TIME HELP WANTED
MILLER THERMOMETER CO.
14 S. Center Street, Hartford, MI 49057
269-621-3124

• WANTED •

CLARK'S AUTO PARTS, INC. is buying cars, trucks & all metals for recycling. Lawrence, 674-4905 or 1-800-707-8650.

STANDING TIMBER.
Top Michigan lumber manufacturer seeking landowners with 25 or more mature hardwood trees to sell. Qualityhardwoodsinc.com • 517-566-8061.

• SERVICES •

GRANT DALY PAINTING:
Interior/exterior residential, commercial, industrial. Great references & free estimates. Call 657-7893.

HAULING, CLEANING RECYCLING.
Moving service. Right Quick Hauling. Dan Wydick, Dustin Wydick, Daniel Wydick, 423-8545. Serving since 1994.

FIELD PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.
Services all brands of heating & cooling equipment in your home or business. 24/7 service for over 50 years, 269-674-3839.

BUYING JUNK CARS, trucks, scrap metal and farm machinery. Kalamazoo Metal Recyclers, 1525 King Highway, Kalamazoo. 269-381-1315.

BUDGET APPLIANCE SERVICE, 269-685-8902. Call us today for your appliance repair or service needs! Quality service at affordable prices.

HANDYMAN SERVICE
Frame thru finish, high quality, highly qualified carpenters. Call 269-903-6397.

• FOR SALE •

30 ROUND BALES OF HAY, 5 x 4, mixed grass, stored in barn, available in Lawrence, $55 a bale, George 847-553-5418.

• AUCTION •

All Secure Self Storage will hold sale of abandoned property at a public sale pursuant in 540.521-570.527: Public Auction: 2/25/2025 at or after 9:30a.m. EST: 37404 W Red Arrow Highway Paw Paw: Chris Beeman, 10; Terry Mayer, 94; Jennifer Strey, 315; Logan Hough, 335.

NOW HIRING
Full & part time positions available for direct care staff. No experience necessary. All training provided.
Please call **269-628-9099**
to schedule an interview or apply online
cornerstoneafc.com

MEDICARE INSURANCE RATES GOING UP
Call for a quote today Janet Bontrager Insurance Advisor
(269) 998-6977

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Advertisement for Request for Proposal Mattawan Consolidated School

Mattawan Consolidated School is soliciting bids from qualified companies who describe their capabilities and provide a proposal to Design, Install, Document, Service, Warranty, and Integrate an Audio/Visual Presentation System for the Middle School Gymnasium at Mattawan Consolidated School (MCS).

Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting is Thursday, February 27, 2025 at 2pm at Mattawan Middle School – 24959 McGillen - Mattawan MI, 49071.

Only SEALED bids will be accepted and are due before 2pm on Friday, March 28, 2025. Please find detailed specifications & bid requirements on the District website at mattawanschools.org.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Village of Paw Paw Village Council will conduct a public hearing on Monday, March 10, 2025 at 7 p.m. in the Community Room of the Paw Paw District Library, located at 609 West Michigan Avenue, Paw Paw, MI 49079 for the purposes of receiving public comment regarding the potential adoption of the following ordinance:

Ordinance No. ____
VILLAGE OF PAW PAW, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOXIOUS WEEDS ORDINANCE

An ordinance to further the public health, peace, safety and environmental quality of the Village of Paw Paw by the prevention, reduction or elimination of noxious weeds within the Village of Paw Paw, Van Buren County, Michigan, to repeal any conflicting ordinances, and to provide penalties for the violation thereof.

VILLAGE OF PAW PAW,
VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN ORDAINS:

SECTION I
AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE IV OF THE VILLAGE OF PAW PAW'S CODE OF ORDINANCES

This section amends Article IV of the Village of Paw Paw's Code of Ordinances to replace the existing the language in its entirety to read as follows:

Section 12-91. Purpose of article.

This article is enacted to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Village of Paw Paw by controlling and eradicating from subdivided lands and improved streets, whether paved or unpaved, of the Village certain noxious weeds and repeal and conflicting ordinances.

Section 12-92. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Noxious weeds means Canada thistle (Circium Arvense), dodders (any species of Cuscuta), mustards (charlock, black mustard and Indian mustard, species of Brassica or Sinapis), wild carrot (Daucus carota), bindweed (Convolvulus arvensis), perennial sowthistle (Sonchus arvensis), hoary alyssum (Berteros incana), ragweed (ambrosia elatior l.) and poison ivy (rhus toxicondendron), Poison Sumac (toxicodendron vernix) or other plants, grass, vines or other growth whenever in the opinion of the board of trustees it is regarded as a common nuisance.

State Law reference – Similar provisions, MCL 247.62.

Section 12-93. Penalty for violation of article.

A person who violates any provision of this article is responsible for a municipal civil infraction, subject to payment of a civil fine of not less than $50.00 or more than $500.00, plus costs and other sanctions for each infraction. Each day on which any violation of this article continues is a separate offense and shall be subject to penalties or sanctions as a separate offense. State Law reference – Authority to make violation a municipal civil infraction, MCL 42.21.

Section 12-94. Nonapplicability of article provisions.

This article shall not apply to noxious weeds in fields devoted to growing of any small grain crop such as wheat, oats, barley or rye.

State Law reference – Similar provisions, MCL 257.64(4).

Section 12-95. Unlawful growth of weeds.

The owner of land on which noxious weeds are found growing shall destroy the weeds before they reach a seed-bearing stage and prevent their regrowth, or shall prevent them from becoming a detriment to public health.

Section 12-96. Public nuisance in certain areas of the Village.

Noxious weeds are deemed to be detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare and shall constitute a public nuisance when found in any of the following areas:

1. Any subdivided land in any subdivision of the Village in which buildings have been erected on 60 percent of the lots included in that subdivision.
2. Any lot along all improved streets, whether paved or unpaved, in common usage, for a depth of ten rods or the depth of the lots, whichever is the lesser.

Section 12-97. Enforcement.

1. This ordinance shall be enforced by such persons who shall be designated by the Village Council as the commissioner of noxious weeds, and the Village Council shall determine the commissioner's compensation.
   State Law reference – Commissioner of noxious weeds, MCL 247.61.
2. The owner, agent or occupant of the property upon which any noxious weeds are found to be present shall be notified by certified mail, return receipt requested, to cut or destroy such noxious weeds, grass, plants, vines or other growth within ten days from the date of the certified notice, return receipt requested. Such notice shall contain methods of treating and eradicating such noxious weeds and a summary of the provisions of section 4 of 1941 PA 59 (MCL 247.64). Failure of the commissioner to give such notice shall not, however, constitute a defense to any action to enforce the payment of any penalty provided for under the provisions of this article.
3. In lieu of the notice required by subsection (b) of this section, the Village may publish a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county during the month of March that weeds not cut by June 1 of that year will be cut by the Village and the owner of the property charged with the cost under the provision of this article. The publication shall also contain all other information required by the notice provided for in subsection (b) of this section.
   State Law reference – Similar provisions, MCL 257.64a.
4. If the owner, agent or occupant of the property upon which such noxious weeds, grass, plants, vines or other growth are found to be present has failed after ten days' notice to cut or destroy such weeds, grass, plants, vines or other growth, then such commissioner or other agent authorized by the Village board may enter upon such property and destroy any such weeds, grass, plants, vines or other growth by cutting or destroying with or without mechanical equipment which will not damage the property or sidewalks adjacent thereto.
5. All expenses incurred by the Village in such destruction shall be paid by the owner or owners of such land. The Village shall have a lien upon the subdivided land or lots for the amount of the expense, the lien to be enforced in the manner prescribed by the laws of the state providing for the enforcement of tax liens.
   State Law reference – Weed cutting, MCL 257.64

ARTICLE II
REPEAL

All ordinances, or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

ARTICLE III

SEVERABILITY

The separate provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any provision or section of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions and sections of said Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

ARTICLE IV

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective 30 days after publication, after adoption.

Roman Plaszczak, President
Village of Paw Paw, 111 E. Michigan Ave., P.O. Box 179
Paw Paw, Michigan 49079
269-657-3148 • https://www.pawpaw.net/

VILLAGE OF PAW PAW, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF PAW PAW COUNCIL

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE VILLAGE OF PAW PAW, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE **The Village of Paw Paw Village Council will conduct a public hearing on Monday, March 10, 2025, at 7 p.m. in the Community Room of the Paw Paw District Library, located at 609 West Michigan Avenue, Paw Paw, MI 49079, to accept public comment on the proposed creation of a Commercial Rehabilitation District for 854 South Kalamazoo Street. At such time and place, all interested parties will be heard.**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE **that the item(s) to be considered at this Public Hearing include, in brief, the following:**

1. Zach Morris of Market One and Chris Khoury representative PEK Investments LLC have requested the creation of a Commercial Rehabilitation District for the property located at 854 S Kalamazoo Street. *Pursuant to PA 210 of 2005, the Village of Paw Paw has the authority to establish such districts at the request of a commercial enterprise if it determines that said district would meet the requirements set forth in the Act. The creation of a district does not obligate the Village to approve or disprove any subsequent applications for a Commercial Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate.

Public comment will be taken at the hearing or written comment may be provided to the Village Offices prior to the meeting. Additional information regarding this meeting is available at the Paw Paw Village Hall, 111 East Michigan Avenue between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday or by sending a written request to PO Box 179, Paw Paw, MI 49079.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids should contact the Village Clerk no later than five business days prior to the meeting to ensure the provision of reasonable accommodations.

Karla Tacy, Village of Paw Paw Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Village of Paw Paw Village Council will conduct a public hearing on Monday, March 10, 2025 at 7 p.m. in the Community Room of the Paw Paw District Library, located at 609 West Michigan Avenue, Paw Paw, MI 49079 for the purposes of receiving public comment regarding the potential adoption of the following ordinance amendment:

SECTION I
AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE II OF THE VILLAGE CODE OF ORDINANCES

This section amends Article II of the Village of Paw Paw's Code of Ordinances to replace the existing the language in its entirety to read as follows:

Sec. 12-31. Purpose.

Consistent with the letter and spirit of Public Act 344 of 1945 (MCL 125.71 et sec.), as amended, it is the purpose of this Ordinance to prevent, reduce or eliminate blight or potential blight in the Village of Paw Paw by the prevention or elimination of certain environmental causes of blight or blighting factors which exist or which may in the future exist in said Village.

Section 12-32. Title.

This Ordinance shall be known as the "Village of Paw Paw Blight Ordinance."

Section 12-33. Causes of Blight and Blighting Factors.

It is hereby determined that the following uses, structures and activities are causes of blight or blighting factors which, if allowed to exist, will tend to result in blighted and undesirable areas in the Village. On and after the effective date of this ordinance, no person, firm or corporation of any kind shall maintain or permit to be maintained any of these causes of blight or blighting factors upon any property in the Village of Paw Paw owned, leased, rented, used or occupied by such person, firm or corporation, all of which are declared a public nuisance:

1. In any area within the Village, including upon any public or private right-of-way or street or other public property, the parking, storage, abandonment, discarding or permitting to remain on premises of any inoperable, wrecked or partially dismantled motor vehicle or a part of motor vehicle. The absence of a current license plate or the growing of vegetation up and/or around the vehicle or the vehicle otherwise appearing to be unmoved for a period exceeding 15 days shall be prima facie evidence that the vehicle is inoperable. This section shall not apply to a motor vehicle or part thereof which is entirely enclosed in a building, which is on the premises of a business enterprise operated in a lawful place and manner, when necessary to the operation of such business enterprise, or which is lawfully operated as a junkyard, licensed under Village ordinances.
2. In any area within the Village, the storage or accumulation of junk, trash, rubbish or refuse of any kind without a landfill permit, except domestic refuse stored in such a manner as not to create a nuisance. The term "junk" shall include, but is not limited to, parts of machinery, used stoves or other appliances stored in the open, remnants of woods, metal or any other material or other cast-off material of any kind whether or not the same could be put to any reasonable use.
3. In any area within the Village, the existence of any structure or part of any structure which, because of fire, wind or other natural disaster, or physical deterioration is no longer habitable, if a dwelling, nor useful for any other purpose for which it may have been intended.
4. In any area within the Village, the existence of any vacant dwelling, garage, or other outbuilding unless such buildings are kept securely locked, windows kept glazed or neatly boarded up and otherwise protected to prevent entrance thereto by vandals or other unauthorized persons.
5. In any area within the Village, the existence of any partially completed structured unless such structure is in the course of construction in accordance with a valid building permit issued by the Village and unless such construction is completed within time allowed by the permit or any express extension thereof.

Sec. 12-35. Enforcement, Violation, and Penalty.

This Ordinance shall be enforced by the Village of Paw Paw Ordinance Enforcement Officer or by such other person or persons as may be designated by the Village of Paw Paw Village Counsel.

Any person, firm, association, partnership, corporation or governmental entity who violates any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be responsible for a municipal civil infraction as defined by Michigan Statute which shall be punishable by a civil fine determined in accordance with the following schedule:

1st Offense within 3-year period:	$ 75.00
2nd Offense within 3-year period:	$150.00
3rd Offense within 3-year period:	$325.00
4th or More Offense within 3-year period:	$500.00

Additionally, the violator shall pay costs which may include all expenses, direct and indirect, to which the Village of Paw Paw has been put in connection with the municipal civil infraction. In no case, however, shall costs of less than $10.00 nor more than $500.00 be ordered. In addition, the Village shall have the right to proceed in any court of competent jurisdiction for the purpose of obtaining an injunction, restraining order, or other appropriate remedy to compel compliance with this Ordinance. Each day that a violation exists shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION II

REPLEAL OF ARTICLE III TITLED COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL BLIGHT OF THE Village OF PAW PAW CODE OF ORDINANCES

This section repeals the language contained in Article III of the Village Code of Ordinances, and reserves it for future use.

ARTICLE III

REPEAL

All ordinances, or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

ARTICLE IV

SEVERABILITY

The separate provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any provision or section of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions and sections of said Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

ARTICLE V

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective 30 days after publication, after adoption.

Roman Plaszczak, President
111 E. Michigan Ave.,P.O. Box 179, Paw Paw, Michigan 49079
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SPORTS

Mattawan senior forward having solid season

Mattawan's Brayden Lewis (15) shoots the puck against Big Rapids in a game earlier this season at Ferris State University

By John Raffel
Correspondent

It's been a tremendous hockey season in many respects for senior Mattawan forward Brayden Lewis, who has been among his team's top players.

The regular season for Mattawan ended on Feb. 13 with a 5-4 loss to Dewitt. The Wildcats lost two of their last there to wind up at 20-4-1 going into the postseason tournament.

But those last two losses were both by a goal.

Lewis had a multi-goal game late in the season in 4-1 win over Big Rapids.

"I though it was a good game," Lewis said. "We came out hard and fought through and got the job done."

His season started off "pretty good," he said. "I started off a little slow. My teammates give me the puck and I've been driving the net. I'm happy with what we've done."

Lewis agreed it's been the best Mattawan team he's played on.

"Our coaching staff has been great this year," Lewis said. "They've given us all the tools.The captains in our senior class have stepped up in big games. We have a great group of guys, young guys and old guys. That's the main thing."

Lewis' strength on the ice is shooting well, especially from the top circle around the dot.

When hockey season ends, Lewis plans on playing for the Mattawan golf team in the spring.

Alfieri has strong season for South Haven

Keira Alfieri is in her senior season of competitive cheer at South Haven.

By John Raffel
Correspondent

SOUTH HAVEN — The competitive cheer season ended on Saturday for the South Haven team but performers like Keira Alfieri found it to be a very productive campaign.

"The team has performed very well so far already better than last year," Alfieri said during the season. "I've performed vey well so far. I feel I've improved extremely since my first year. I've learned to main base a full round and as well have improved my flying skills to be tighter and my facials when flying."

Alfieri was a flyer and base for South Haven.

"I still fly and base well," Alfieri said. "I'm tight with my motions I'm loud, my facial expressions are big."

Alfieri said she worked at trusting her bases and not bailing out of stunts.

"This year we performed an amazing round 3 hitting all of our stunts and the difficulty of them, making our score high and showing we can exceed bigger scores than last year," she said "Team bonding was huge this year and it's made us so much stronger and created an emotional bond with each other making our performance better.

"I've exceeded my expectations while leading my team, as a senior being flexible with roles and helping create a positive environment for us. The team has exceeded expectations with bonding performing and getting better at what we do every year."

Competitive cheer is Alfieri's only varsity sport.

"It's where we push ourselves to be the best and each competition we learn more and get better and we have fun doing what we do," she said. "And this season will be the end of my cheerleading journey and the end of my sports."

Mattawan boys win

By John Raffel
Correspondent

Mattawan's boys basketball team beat St. Joseph 48-49 on Monday after losing to Parchment 61-47 and Portage Central 55-49 last week.

"We had two tough games this week," coach Josh Brown said. "We played a very good Parchment team on Tuesday on Senior Night. Held a very good scorer in Jalen Kampen to 4 points but the team stepped up for them and pulled away in the second half.

"On Friday night we played SMAC West leader Portage Central at their place. They had a big 10-2 run to start the fourth quarter to blow the game open and put us away.

"We finish with 3 games this week before playoffs. Monday at St. Joe, Tuesday at Okemos, Thursday at Portage Northern."

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Select Varieties
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$5.29
Save at least $1.00

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includes 1 Hot Side & 1 Cold Side

Wednesday, Feb. 19:
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Family Pack
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Family Pack
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Village Market, All Natural
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Regular or BBQ
BUY ONE PKG., GET ONE PKG. OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE
FREE!

Pork Baby Back Ribs
$3.99 lb.

Tender Ridge, Choice Angus
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Boneless Beef Top Round Steak
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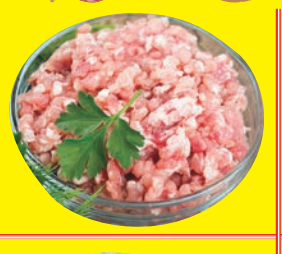

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2/$6

Fresh
Yellow, Red or Orange Bell Peppers
each
2/$3

Premium
Extra Large Red or Green Seedless Grapes
$2.99 lb.

Fresh
Seedless Cucumbers
each
2/$3

Navel, Blood or Cara Cara Oranges
each
5/$5

Fresh
Cauliflower
each
$2.99

Organic PRODUCE

Select Varieties
Earthbound Farm Organic Salad Mixes
10 oz.
$4.99

Fresh
Organic Broccoli
each
$3.99

floral center

6-Inch Hyacinth Bulb Plant
each
$9.99

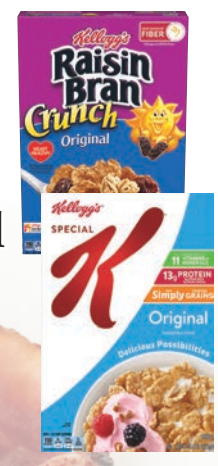
Fresh & Finest Grand Garden Bouquet
each
$14.99

Breakfast Bargains

Village Market, Store Made, Fresh
Bulk Original Pork Breakfast Sausage
Family Pack
$2.99 lb.

Select Varieties
General Mills Large Size Cereal
12 - 16.8 oz.
$3.99

Select Varieties
Kellogg's Raisin Bran or Special K Cereal
9.6 - 16.6 oz.
2/$7



Select Varieties
Quaker Instant Oatmeal
8.2 - 14.1 oz.
2/$6

Our Family Bagels
Everything or Plain
20 oz.
2/$6

Select Varieties
Maxwell House Ground Coffee
22 - 36.8 oz.
$9.99

Quaker Old Fashioned or Quick Oats
42 oz.
$3.99

Select Varieties
Hungry Jack Pancake Mix or Syrup
24 - 32 oz.
2/$6

Select Varieties
Nature Valley Muffins or Biscuits
(5 ct.) or **Soft Baked Oatmeal Squares** (6 ct.)
2/$6

Select Varieties
Little Debbie Donuts or Donut Sticks
8.62 - 10.5 oz.
3/$7

Select Varieties
Our Family Single Serve Coffee Pods
(12 ct.) or **Ground Coffee** (12 oz.)
$4.99

Select Varieties
Our Family Buttermilk Pancakes
(12 ct.) or **Waffles** (10 ct.)
2/$4

Select Varieties
Totino's Breakfast Bites
19.5 oz.
2/$9

Select Varieties
Dutch Farms Cream Cheese
Lite or Regular
8 oz.
2/$4

Select Varieties
Dutch Farms Bagels
14 oz.
2/$4

savings - selection - service - quality - value

Assorted Varieties
Coke Products
(10 pk., 7.5 oz. sleek mini cans) or **Monster Energy Drinks** (4 pk., 16 oz. cans) (plus deposit) or **Gold Peak Tea** (6 pk., 16.9 oz. btls.)
$7.99

Select Varieties
Powerade Drinks
8 pk., 12 oz. btls.
$4.99

Save at least $4.98 on 2

Assorted Varieties
Coke Products
12 pk., 12 oz. cans (plus deposit)
2/$15

Lesser or More Qty.'s $7.99 Each (plus deposit)

When You Buy 2

Select Varieties
Lay's Potato Chips or Poppables
(5 - 8 oz.) or **Tostitos Tortilla Chips** (9 - 13 oz.)
2/$8

Save at least $1.98 on 2

Assorted Varieties
Pepsi Products
(6 pk., 16.9 oz. btls.) (plus deposit) or **Propel Drinks** (6 pk., 12 oz. btls.)
3/$13

Save at least $5.87 on 3

Assorted Varieties
Pepsi Products
8 pk., 12 oz. btls. or 10 pk., 7.5 oz. sleek mini cans (plus deposit)
$5.99

Select Varieties
Kool-Aid Bursts
6 ct.
2/$4

Save at least $1.00 on 2

Select Varieties
On The Border Tortilla Chips
8 - 11 oz.
2/$5

Save at least $3.58 on 2

Assorted Varieties
7-Up Products
6 pk., 16.9 oz. btls. (plus deposit)
3/$9

Save at least $8.97 on 3

Assorted Varieties
7-Up Products
10 pk., 7.5 oz. cans (plus deposit)
3/$11

Miller: Lite or 64, **Coors:** Light or Banquet or **Molson Canadian**
24 pk. cans (plus deposit)
$18.99

Save at least $4.40 on 1

Select Varieties
Bugles, Chex Mix or Gardetto Snacks
7 - 8.75 oz.
2/$5

Save at least $3.38 on 2

Assorted Varieties
Bubly Sparkling Water (8 pk., 12 oz. cans), **Pepsi Products** (6 pk., 7.5 oz. cans) or **Schweppes Mixers** (6 pk., 10 oz. btls.) (plus deposit)
2/$8

Glacéau Smart Water
Regular or Antioxidant
700 ml
2/$4

Select Varieties
Snapple Drinks
6 pk., 16.9 oz. btls.
$3.99

Select Varieties
Mike's Hard Lemonade
6 pk. (plus deposit)
$9.99

Select Varieties
Yellow Tail Wine
750 ml
$6.99

Select Varieties
Nabisco Chips Ahoy! or Oreo Cookies
9.5 - 14.03 oz.
$3.99

Select Varieties
Cape Cod Potato Chips
7.5 - 8 oz.
2/$6

Select Varieties
Our Family Storage Bags
30 - 50 ct.
2/$6

Select Varieties
Aunt Millie's Bread
Homestyle Buttermilk, Healthy Goodness Potato or Family Style Honey Wheat (22 oz.) or Artisan White (20 oz.) or Homestyle Honey or Stadium White Hamburger or Hot Dog Buns (8 ct.) or Stadium Brat Buns (6 ct.)
2/$5

Save at least $2.38 on 2

Campbell's Tomato or Chicken Noodle Condensed Soup
10.75 oz.
4/$5

Save at least 25¢ on 4

Select Varieties
Nabisco Premium Saltine Crackers
11 - 16 oz.
$3.99

Select Varieties
Swanson Chicken or Beef Broth
14.5 oz.
3/$3

Save at least $2.07 on 3

Select Varieties
Our Family Deluxe Macaroni & Cheese Dinner
12 - 14 oz.
2/$5

Save at least $2.38 on 2

Select Varieties
Our Family Canned Fruit
14.5 - 15.25 oz.
2/$4

Save at least 38¢ on 2

Select Varieties
Tide Liquid Detergent
(132 oz.) or **Pods** (76 ct.)
$19.99

Save at least $2.00 on 1

Select Varieties
Our Family Pasta
12 - 16 oz.
3/$4

Save at least $1.97 on 3

Select Varieties
Mueller's Egg Noodles
12 oz.
2/$5

Our Family Select-A-Size White Paper Towels
2 ultra huge rolls
2/$9

Save at least $3.98 on 2

dairy savings - dairy savings

Select Varieties
Our Family Orange Juice
52 oz.
2/$7
Save at least 98¢ on 2

Select Varieties
Yoplait Yogurt
Original, Whips or Light
4 - 6 oz.
8/$5
Save at least 62¢ on 8

Our Family 1% Lowfat or Fat Free Milk
gallon
2/$7
Save at least 98¢ on 2

Orchard Pure 100% Orange Juice from Concentrate
64 oz.
$3.99
Save at least $2.00 on 1

Select Varieties
Coffee mate Liquid Creamer
46 - 64 oz.
$6.99
Save at least 70¢ on 1

Select Varieties
Dutch Farms Natural Cheese Slices
6 oz.
2/$5
Save at least $2.98 on 2

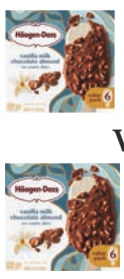
Select Varieties
Dutch Farms String or Snack Cheese
10 oz.
$3.99
Save at least $1.00 on 1

Select Varieties
Ore-Ida Just Crack An Egg
2.25 - 3 oz.
2/$4
Save at least $1.48 on 2

frozen favorites - frozen favorites

Select Varieties
Edy's Grand Classic Ice Cream
1.5 qt.
2/$9
Save at least $6.98 on 2

Select Varieties
Häagen-Dazs Ice Cream
28 oz.
$7.99



Häagen-Dazs Vanilla Almond Bars
6 ct.
$7.99

Select Varieties
Marie Callender's Frozen Entrées
11.9 - 14 oz.
2/$6
Save at least $3.98 on 2

Select Varieties
Our Family Frozen Vegetable Mixes
12 - 14 oz.
2/$4
Save at least $1.18 on 2

Stouffer's French Bread Pizza
Pepperoni (11.75 oz.) or Deluxe (12.75 oz.)
2/$5
Save at least $3.78 on 2

Select Varieties
Marie Callender's Pot Pies
15 oz.
2/$6
Save at least $4.98 on 2

Select Varieties
Kemp's Ice Cream Bars
4 ct.
2/$7
Save at least $2.98 on 2

Select Varieties
McCain Potatoes
14 - 22 oz.
$3.99
Save at least $2.00 on 1

Select Varieties
Hungry-Man Frozen Dinners
14.5 - 16 oz.
$3.99
Save at least $1.00 on 1

health & beauty and general merchandise

Select Varieties
Heath Bird Food Mixed Suet
each
2/$4

Our Family Wild Bird Food
5 lb.
$4.99

Simply Done Batteries
C or D (4 ct.), AA or AAA (8 ct.) or 9V (2 ct.)
$5.29

Simply Done AA or AAA Batteries
20 ct.
$7.99

Simply Done LED Light Bulbs
A19 2700K DIM 60W or A19 ND 60W
4 ct.
$7.99

Simply Done Invisible Tape
1 ct.
2/$3

TopCare

TopCare Pain Relief
500 mg EZ, 100 ct.
$5.99

TopCare Non-Asprin
325 mg, 100 ct.
2/$7

TopCare NutriSure Nutrition Shake
Vanilla, Chocolate or Strawberry, 6 ct.
$7.99

TopCare NutriSure Plus Nutrition Shake
Vanilla or Milk Chocolate
6 ct.
$8.99

TopCare Rapid Release Pain Relief
100 ct. gelcaps
$8.19

Select Varieties
TopCare Pantiliners (40 ct.) or **Maxi Pads** (16 - 24 ct.)
2/$6

O'Keefe's Working Hands
2.7 oz. jar or 3 oz. tube
$7.99

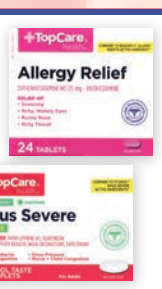
Advil Pain Relief
50 ct. tablets or caplets
$8.49

Select Varieties
Colgate Oral Care
360 Floss Tip Soft Toothbrush (1 ct.), **Optic White Toothpaste** (3.2 - 4.2 oz.) or **Pro-Release Plaque Toothpaste** (3 oz.)
$6.99

Tom's or Main Toothpaste
Luminous White or Simply White Clean Mint, 4 oz.
$5.99

Select Varieties
Kotex Liners (50 - 60 ct.), **Maxi Pads** (22 - 24 ct.) or **Ultra Thin Pads** (20 - 22 ct.)
2/$7

Select Varieties
TopCare Allergy Relief or Sinus Severe
24 ct. tablets or caplets
2/$8



Select Varieties
White Rain Shampoo or Conditioner
Men's 3-in-1 or **Regular** (15 oz.) or **Kids 3-in-1** (12 oz.)
2/$3

Select Varieties
White Rain Hair Products
Volumizing Hair Mousse (5 oz.) or **Max Hold Pump** or **Aerosol Hair Spray** (7 oz.)
$1.69

Select Varieties
Aussie Hair Products
Miracle Shampoo, Conditioner, Detangling Spray Leave In Moisturizer, Mousse, Anti Frizz or Hair Spray, 5.7 - 16 oz.
$4.99

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